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address by Hon. James Brown Scott, solicitor of the State Department, professor of international law at George Washington University, and managing editor of the *American Journal of International Law*. Other prominent and able speakers have been invited to deliver addresses in Richmond the coming fall.

Brevities.

. . . The twenty-fifth Conference of the International Law Association will be held at Budapest, Hungary, September 21 to 25. The Honorary President of the Conference will be Dr. Anton Günther, Royal Hungarian Minister of Justice. The President of the Association, Mr. Justice Phillimore, of the British High Court of Justice, will preside over the deliberations. The meetings will be held in the building of the Academy of Sciences. The delegates will be the guests of the Municipality of Budapest, the Budapest Bar Association, the Hungarian Jurists' Association and the Budapest Lawyers' Club.

. . . At the closing session of the American Federation of Catholic Societies, held in Symphony Hall, Boston, August 12, the following resolution was adopted:

"We are in accord with and heartily endorse the aims of the International Peace Movement."

. . . The first international anti-dueling congress took place at Budapest during the first week of June.

. . . The fifth French National Peace Congress was held at La Rochelle the 7th to the 9th of June. It was presided over by Dr. Charles Richet of the Medical Faculty of Paris. It was attended by members of the Cabinet, members of the Chamber of Deputies, and the leading peace workers of the nation, and was a very successful and influential meeting.

. . . The North American Gymnastic Union, at its convention in Chicago, June 27 to July 1, adopted a new declaration of principles containing the following plank:

"The history of mankind shows in natural evolution the growth of the rule of justice in place of violence in ever-widening circles from the relations of individuals to the national state. The time for a further expansion of the recognition of justice appears to have arrived.

"We demand, therefore, the settlement of international disputes by judicial process, as well as the furtherance of all endeavors for the common, cultural and civilizatory work of all nations and for the reconciliation of separating differences between them, indeed, of all tendencies that aim at a common organization of all mankind."

The North American Gymnastic Union was founded in the middle of the last century by the German refugees of 1848. It has a membership of forty thousand American citizens of German descent. It has for its aim the all-round development of man, mind and body, according to the motto, "*Mens sana in corpore sano*." It is one of the most progressive bodies in this country, and has exercised an active and beneficent influence during critical periods of our history.

. . . The Belgian Chamber of Deputies adopted on August 20 the Congo Annexation Treaty by a vote of eighty-three to fifty-five. There are grave reasons to fear that the terms of the transfer of the Congo State from King

Leopold to the Belgian government are not such as to put an end to the monstrous inhumanities which the agents of the concessionary companies have practiced upon the natives. The governments which were parties to the setting up of the state ought to see that these cruelties and injustices at once cease.

The Greatest of All Reforms.

Address of the British Prime Minister, Right Honorable H. H. Asquith, at the banquet given by the Government in the Hotel Cecil, July 31, to the delegates to the Seventeenth Universal Peace Congress.

The Prime Minister, proposing "The International Peace Movement," said:

Mr. Harcourt, my Lords and Ladies and Gentlemen: I have the honor of submitting to you what I suppose we might regard as the toast of the evening, "The International Peace Movement." You are assembled here to-night, ladies and gentlemen, from all quarters of the globe, from among almost all the peoples of the civilized world, with an infinite diversity of special interests and associations, and I should suppose, of social and political ideals, but united by a common desire to promote and secure international peace. [Cheers.] I am told that at your congress the delegates present have represented no less than twenty-five distinct nationalities and two hundred and fifty separate societies. In the name of his Majesty's Government, and on their behalf, I associate myself with my Rt. Hon. friend in the chair in bidding you welcome to this country, and in assuring you of our deep and sincere interest in the great purpose which has brought you together. [Cheers.] Ladies and gentlemen, to urge the advantages and to advocate the maintenance of peace might seem to be, what it certainly ought to be, a nauseous and a superfluous task. Of all the deities in the Pantheon, there is none to whom mankind now as always is more ready to pay the homage of lip service than to the goddess of peace.

GREAT ARMAMENTS NO SAFEGUARD AGAINST WAR.

We are, indeed, often told by apologists for the existing state of things that the colossal armaments, which are inflicting an immeasurable and ever-growing burden upon mankind [Cheers] are in themselves a safeguard, and, indeed, the best insurance against war. [No.] Now it is said that your fighting units are numbered not by the thousand, but by the million; that every four or five years your battleships increase in the bulk of displacement and in the perfection of their armaments. It is said that the very completeness of the mechanism of destruction, the vastness of the scale upon which it is organized, must prevent statesmen and diplomatists from ever again contemplating the outbreak of war with a light heart. [Hear, hear.] Well, my friend, Mr. Stead, says "Hear, hear." [Laughter.] I confess I am not very much impressed by whatever grains or germs of truth may be latent in that. [Hear, hear.] It certainly does not console me when I look round and survey the general situation, and when I find that, according to the good authorities—I do not pin myself to precise figures—according to the good and weighty authorities, the annual expenditure of the civilized nations of the world upon armaments is now somewhere between £400,000,000